

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DY160

Name of Service: Our World Montessori

Address of Service: 26 Grange Park Grove
Raheny
Dublin 5

Email Address: ourworldmontessori@eircom.net

Name of Registered Service Provider: Ms Carole Barrett

Type of Service Registered: Sessional ☒

Date of Inspection: 1 3 0 2 2 0 2 0

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: AM 17

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate
Tusla Child and Family Agency
Floor 2 Brunel building
Heuston South Quarter
Dublin 8

Inspection undertaken by: Ms M McDonnell
Title: Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection

Governance	Health Welfare and Development of Child
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Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Conditions If Applicable N/A



Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016.
REF: EYIRIRSESS03-2017: RN9: 11.09.2018

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Description of Service	Our World Montessori provides a sessional service to pre-school children aged 3 – 6 years old. A morning session is provided from 9.30am to 1pm, Monday to Friday during school term time only. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.
Premises	The service is based in a purpose built facility to the rear of the registered providers own residence. The care room is accessed via a dedicated entrance and there is a large care room and sanitary facilities with access to an outdoor play area.
Staffing	The registered provider employs one permanent staff member, and has a relief staff member available. The registered provider and permanent staff member had evidence that they held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the Quality and Qualifications of Ireland framework of qualifications.
Methodology	The inspection was an unannounced Focused Inspection to assess compliance with the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The Inspection focused on regulations under two themes; Governance, and the Health, Welfare and Development of the Child. The findings on inspection based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff are documented in the Inspection report and presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration. The Inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including: clarity; completeness; and, compliance with administrative and legal purposes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

GOVERNANCE

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that—
- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,
 - (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and
- (2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by—
- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
 - (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
 - (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and
 - (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.
- (4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.
- (6) Paragraph (4) shall not apply before 1 September 2021 to a person who—
- (a) has signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016 to the effect that he or she intends to retire from employment in a pre-school service before 1 September 2021, and
 - (b) is in possession of a letter from the Minister confirming that paragraph (4) shall not apply to him or her before that date
- (6A is inserted by S.I. No.632 of 2016 CHILD CARE ACT 1991 (EARLY YEARS SERVICES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016 which states; Regulation 9 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations (S.I. No. 221 of 2016) is amended - in paragraph (4), by the substitution of "paragraphs (5), (6) and (6A)" for "paragraphs (5) and (6)", and (b) by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (6): "
- (6A) Paragraph (4) shall not apply to an employee of a registered provider where - (a) the registered provider receives funding for the employment of the employee pursuant to a scheme funded by the Minister and known as the Access and Inclusion Model, and (b) the employment of the employee is for the purpose of providing support, pursuant to the scheme referred to in subparagraph (a), for a child attending the service to enable the child to participate in the programme known as the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) funding Programme."

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

Compliance Information:

- (1)(a) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.
- (b) The designated person in charge was on the premises when the inspector arrived, unannounced, to carry out the inspection.
- (2)(a) The registered provider had three written and validated references available from a source other than a past employer for the staff members.
- (b) The registered provider had two written references and one written and validated reference available from a source other than a past employer.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for the registered provider and for the 2 staff members.
- (d) Police vetting was not required for staff as evidence was available to indicate that they had not resided outside the jurisdiction for a period of more than 6 consecutive months as an adult.
- (4) The registered provider had evidence of a level 8 qualification and staff working directly with the children attending the service had evidence they held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 and Level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications.
- (6)(a) & (b) Not applicable as all staff were appropriately qualified.
- (6)(a) Not applicable as no staff member was employed under the scheme known as the Access and Inclusion Model.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing Levels

- (1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.
- (8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—
- (c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Compliance Information:

- (1) The registered provider ensured that an adequate number of adults were working in the service on the day of inspection.
- (3) The registered provider ensured that the correct adult to child ratios were maintained throughout the day. There were 2 adults providing direct care to 17 children on the day of inspection.
- (8)(c) Not applicable as this is not a single handed service.

HEALTH WELFARE & DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

- (1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that—
- (a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child.

Compliance Information:

Basic Needs

- On the inspector's arrival into the service the children were participating in their own choice of activities and a child led environment had been developed. Children were playing on their own creating a fort with soldiers; using an old camera and threading, others were engaged with their peers playing with sea and woodland animals and in the home corner creating meals and laying the table.
- The materials available allowed the children to develop imaginative play. Children were heard to use the feathers to become a bird and they used blocks and figures to develop monsters and superheroes.
- Transitions observed on the day of inspection were clearly defined and

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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signalled. Children participated in tidying up and preparing for the next activity.

- Children's lunches were varied and nutritious and followed the healthy eating policy of the service. Lunches contained a selection of sandwiches, strawberries, melon yogurts and breadsticks.

Supporting Relationships Around Children

- Children were included in completing jobs for the day which promoted care for their peers. For example, children gave out the dinner plates and cups and one child took the lunches from the fridge.
- Children were facilitated to manage behaviour and work positively with their peers. Staff anticipated difficulties and managed issues that arose on the day of inspection positively.
- Children's choice was facilitated through the adult led activities observed. During circle time children were encouraged to participate in the telling and recollection of the story. At this time other children choose to continue to engage in their own activity.
- At lunchtime staff engaged and chatted with children. A small group of children chose to have a 'picnic' so sat on the floor with a mat with a small number of peers.
- Parental drop off and collection was observed to be calm and unhurried with parents gaining an opportunity to talk to staff.

Physical and Material Environment

- The materials in the preschool room were available at the child's level. Children were observed making choices throughout the session and changing activities as required.
- There was a range of activities available. Defined interest areas were supported with a range of commercial, home-made and recycled materials.
- A relaxation area with cushions, mats and books was available for the children.
- The children accessed the outdoor play area on the day of inspection. The area consisted of artificial grass and a soft safety surface. There was a range of ride on toys as well as a slide; benches; playhouse and climbing frame for the children to play with.